

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-22, 24-29, and 31-33 are pending in the application. No claims have been amended, added, or cancelled. In view of the following remarks, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

Telephone Interview with Examiner

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for extending Applicants' representative the courtesy of a telephone interview on October 18, 2005. The Examiner and Applicants' representative discussed claims 1 and 29, and the cited Yang reference. Specifically, Applicants' representative explained to the Examiner that Yang failed to disclose enabling a user to specify the number of frames that are displayed for a plurality of predefined framesets and retrieving one or more of the plurality of predefined framesets, wherein each of the one or more of the plurality of predefined framesets includes the specified number of frames. The Examiner agreed to review the Yang reference again, in light of the explained deficiency. Additionally, the Examiner and Applicants' representative discussed the propriety of making the August 19, 2005 office action final, as described below.

Improper Final Rejection

Applicants assert that the August 19, 2005 Office Action was improperly made final for at least the following reasons: (i) the rejections presented in the Office Action were based on a new reference, (ii) the new grounds of rejection were not necessitated by amendment, and (iii) the new grounds of rejections were based on information submitted in an IDS. *See MPEP § 706.07(a).* Withdrawal of the finality of the August 19, 2005 Office Action is respectfully requested. However, even if the final rejection was proper, all of the pending claims are allowable over the newly cited reference for the reasons provided below.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-22, 24-29 and 31-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,301,586 to Yang. Applicants traverse these rejections on the following grounds.

Independent claim 29 recites, among other things, “enabling the user to specify a number of frames that are displayed for the plurality of predefined framesets” and “in response to the user specifying the number of frames, retrieving one or more of the plurality of predefined framesets, wherein each of the one or more of the plurality of predefined framesets includes the specified number of frames.” At least these features are not disclosed by Yang.

Yang appears to describe a method of laying out pictures in album pages. The Examiner alleges that the three picture layouts (horizontal, vertical, and diagonal) illustrated in Figure 3 of the Yang reference correspond to a plurality of frameset arrangements as claimed in the invention (see Office Action, page 2). However, these layouts are not framesets. Even if these layouts could be considered framesets, Yang does not disclose enabling the user to specify a number of frames that are displayed for the plurality of predefined framesets. While it appears that a user can select how many pictures to display on an album page, the picture layouts do not change based on this user selection (see Yang, column 16, lines 1-7). As such, even if these picture layouts were considered framesets, selecting a number of framesets would not cause a plurality of framesets to be retrieved each having the specified number of frames. Because Yang does not disclose enabling the user to specify a number of frames that are displayed for the plurality of predefined framesets and in response to the user specifying the number of frames, retrieving one or more of the plurality of predefined framesets, wherein each of the one or more of the plurality of predefined framesets includes the specified number of frames, claim 29 is not anticipated by Yang.

Claim 1 recites, among other things, “a frame number specification object that enables the user to specify a number of frames in the plurality of predefined framesets that are simultaneously displayed.” At least this feature is not disclosed by Yang. As explained above in reference to claim 29, the picture layouts, which the Examiner equate with the plurality of

framesets, do not change based on the user selection of a number of pictures. As such, even if these picture layouts were considered framesets, a user cannot specify the number of frames in the plurality of predefined frameset arrangements that are simultaneously displayed. Thus, claim 1 is not anticipated by Yang.

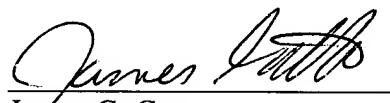
Independent claims 8, 15, and 22 recite features similar to those discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 29. As such, claims 8, 15, and 22 are not anticipated by Yang.

Claims 3-7, 10-14, 17-21, 24-28, and 31-33 depend from and add features to one of claims 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. Thus, these dependent claims are allowable over the Yang for at least the reasons described above and for the additional features provided.

Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted,



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